

Media contact: Steve Zollinger, 208-313-4548, inl.st@hotmail.com

Nearly 800 students to compete at 17th INL Scholastic Tournament

At the 17th annual INL Scholastic Tournament in February and March, 800 Idaho students from approximately 80 Idaho high schools will attempt to win one of three state championships and an expense-paid trip to the National Science Bowl in Washington, D.C., April 26-30.

The competition is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy's Idaho National Laboratory and, along with 65 other regional science bowl competitions around the country, is part of the National Science Bowl competition coordinated by DOE.

Since its inception in 1991, the National Science Bowl has attracted more than 125,000 high school students in the "Jeopardy-style" contest, and about 13,000 more are expected to join the competition this year.

In Idaho, the largest National Science Bowl competition in the U.S., high schools will compete in one of three divisions based on school enrollment. Regional tournaments will be held at the Idaho State University Center for Higher Education in Idaho Falls, Boise State University and the University of Idaho.

Twenty-eight teams will emerge from the regionals and move on to the state championship tournament March 19-20 in Boise. The championship team of each division will be crowned following matches videotaped at Idaho Public Television on March 20 and broadcast on Saturday, March 24.

The competition is set up similar to sporting events with round-robin and consolation format tournaments. Teams consist of as many as 10 members, with seven competing at a given time and three substitutes. The fast-paced question-and-answer event awards points to teams quickest to "buzz in" and answer the most questions correctly.

The West Regional tournament is Feb. 26 – 27 at Boise State University's Student Union Building. Competition begins Feb. 26 at 9:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. and on Feb. 27 at 11 a.m.

The North Regional tournament is March 5 – 6 at the University of Idaho's Student Commons Building. Competition begins March 5 at 11 a.m. and on March 6 at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

The East Regional tournament is March 12 – 13 at the University Place Student Union Building in Idaho Falls. Competition begins March 12 at 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. and March 13 at 10 a.m.

INL Scholastic Tournament receives financial support from Micron Foundation and Westmark Credit Union.

INL is one of the DOE's 10 multiprogram national laboratories. The laboratory performs work in each of the strategic goal areas of DOE: energy, national security, science and environment. Specifically, INL is the nation's leading center for nuclear energy research and development. Day-to-day management and operation of the laboratory is the responsibility of Battelle Energy Alliance.

--INL--07-003

Visit our [Web site](#)

[News Release Archive](#)